



A.B.A.T.E. of North Idaho, Inc.

www.abateofnorthidahobikers.org

October 4, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 12:00pm Quorum: Yes Pledge of Allegiance: Yes Prayer: By Dan Benson, State Chaplin

Attendance: **Dan Ertz** (Coordinator), **Paul Riess** (Deputy Coordinator- via phone), **Belinda Wright-Ertz** (Secretary), **Pauline Durst** (Membership Secretary), **Dan Benson** (Chaplin), **Jack Clark** (Hoodoo Coordinator), **Bob Merkel** (Hoodoo Dep. Coordinator), **Laura Ingalls** (Kootenai Coordinator), **Belinda Carson** (Kootenai Dep. Coordinator), **Guests: Roy Fisher** (Hoodoo) **Cindy Bessey** (Kootenai), **Dave Cazel** (Kootenai/MRF Rep), **Scott Storch** (State), **Lane Triplett** (ICMS), **Wayne Wierson** (ICMS)

Approval of agenda: accepted Prior Meeting's Minutes : None no Quorum last meeting

Coordinator's Report/Address: Dan Ertz read September's ANI Website's "Coordinators Corner" article on Brotherhood.

Deputy Coordinator's Report : Paul Reiss was available via phone as he had just had a triple bypass and is currently in a rehabilitation facility. An update on Paul's condition was shared and also shared how his wife, Susan, was doing.

Secretary's Report – Belinda Wright-Ertz - No report from last meeting. A request for the prior Secretary's information was voiced and Pauline Durst had brought it to the meeting and had the "box" in her trunk.

Treasurer Report – Karen Stewart – Karen was unavailable but did send a printout of the 2015 budget and a current balance showing that the State currently had funds available for any needs. Dave Cazel stated MRF had a variance and was in need of funds. An offer of \$500 dollars was put "on the table" for MRF and Lane Triplett and Wayne Wierson were asked if they needed funds and another \$500 was offered. Lane and Wayne said that ICMS could use funds, but they currently were not in as much need as the MRF so requested their offer be forwarded to the MRF, for a total of \$1000 donation. ***Pauline Durst made a motion that ANI donate a total of \$1000 to MRF, Jack Clark seconded.*** A call was made to Paul Riess and the motion carried. It was decided that we would set the 2015 Budget at the next meeting in January as Paul and Karen were not at this meeting to go over the printout with members.

Membership Secretary's Report – Pauline Durst – Pauline shared that ANI currently has 153 members

Chapter Reports: Hells Canyon – No members from Hells Canyon were present

Chapter Reports: Hoodoo - Hoodoo's annual Fat Bastards Float Trip the last weekend of July was a great success and a pleasant surprise of picking up new members. For Hoodoo members the camping and the steaks are free. Hoodoo also has been serving hotdogs at end of each meeting.

Chapter Reports: Kootenai – Kootenai membership numbers are holding their own. They did experience 2 or 3 meetings this summer with no quorum. They are working on a goal to have a quorum at all meetings. They are having a Toy Run October 25th. It will not be as large of a function as in the past. Riders will meet at Lawrences Motorcycles at 10:00 for sign in and ride starts at 11:00. They will take a roundabout route ending at Children's Village to drop off toys. Types of toys needed and information will be posted on the ANI website.

Committee Reports: Newsletter – Bob Merkel is managing the ANI website. He is having trouble with members not providing information to post on the website, namely photos and bios of the ANI Chapter Officers. He has had questions regarding when the chapters meet and who the officers are and he cannot answer those questions. He is requesting a Bylaw Committee be formed to change the Bylaws to make it mandatory that officers submit photos and bios and that chapter minutes be sent to the Webmaster/designated contact. It was also discussed that the Bylaws only refer to the "Newsletter" which no longer is being distributed. ***A motion was made by Jack Clark that every Bylaw with the wording "Newsletter" be changed to Newsletter/Webmaster/Designated Contact to cover any future changes, seconded by Pauline Durst.*** A call was made to Paul Riess and the motion carried. A Bylaws Committee with the following members (Belinda Carson, Jack Clark and Pauline Durst) was formed to take the proposed changes to each Chapter for approval.

Committee Reports: Legislative - Dave Cazel reminded us all that an election is coming up and it is important to be informed regarding the candidates and legislation that is being voted on. Read voters' pamphlets, seek out information. A discussion regarding the legislation to the changes needed for time limits on the Learners Permits issued. One-Third of the fatalities are riders without Motorcycle Endorsements. The bill regarding limits on renewal of Learners Permits failed last time due to the Motorcycle Permits and the CDL Permits were on the same bill. The truck drivers did not want to wait the two weeks for the CDL to go into effect. This time the CDL and Motorcycles are separated. It is calling for only (1) renewal which amounts to about 1 year and then Licensing will need to be obtained. It was mentioned in one case a Learners Permit had been renewed 13 times. Some people believe that there should not be a "M" on licenses. ICMS representatives Lane Tripplett and Wayne Wierson asked what ANI members feel about the one time renewal and a Motorcycle Endorsement for Motorcyclists. General consensus was that ANI will be behind the bill.

Committee Reports: Safety & Education- The safety officer Karen Stewart was not present but her report that she presented at the Kootenai meeting on Thursday, October 2nd was shared. She spoke about a change in what motorcycle riders need to watch out for. In the past it was being "T-boned" now it is being hit from behind by drivers who are texting while driving. The number one killer of teens in auto accidents has now changed from alcohol to texting while driving. Be sure to leave a safety cushion and instead of pulling right in the middle behind a vehicle at a stop light, stop on either side to give yourself an escape route. Leave your motorcycle in gear and be ready to move!

Web Page – Bob Merkel reported the website is getting positive feedback from as far away as Florida and reiterated that it is imperative the Web Site be kept up to date with information. He stated that he and Belinda Wright-Ertz (who manages the Face Book Page) are not "Reporters" and rely on members to provide information for both Social Media Sites. His biggest challenge is members not providing requested information. People are asking questions that are not being answered about Chapter meeting times and officer appointments and he needs the information. It was mentioned that in the future we can start selling ads on the website.

Facebook Page – Belinda Wright-Ertz commented the Facebook page is getting postings, but she is unfamiliar with exactly how to use it to its full potential. Bob Merkel mentioned his posting of Paul Riess got several comments. Belinda asked if ANI would provide funds for her to attend two classes (\$40 each) at the NIC Small Business Development Center on Social Media. The first class addresses Facebook, and how to use it, the second class on how to build a Social Media Strategy. Bob Merkel was asked if he would like to also attend. ***A motion was made by Bob Merkel and seconded by Belinda Carson that ANI spend a maximum of \$240 to send an ABATE member from each Chapter to the (2) Social Media Classes.*** A call was made to Paul Riess and the motion carried. The Classes are Tuesday, November 11th and November 18th 6 – 8 pm. It was agreed that Social Media is the future and can reach more people than the Newsletter.

Spring Opener 2015 – Bob Merkel reported on the 2015 Spring Opener. A meeting has already occurred with "Don" to secure Albert's Landing for a venue. A Poster sample was passed around and a ***motion was made by Belinda Wright-Ertz and seconded by Jack Clark to set the SO Budget at \$5,000*** as we may need a bit more funds to spend on the band. (Paul Riess was not called on this one as it had already been discussed prior to the meeting and he agreed) motion carried. It was agreed, due to time constraints, not to discuss any details at the Board Meeting regarding Spring Opener Details as the Committee is able to make many of the decisions on their own. The first Spring Opener meeting will be held on November 1st at 3:00pm in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. A location will be decided at a later date and all members of the SO Committee will be notified.

ICMS Report- Lane Tripplett and Wayne Wierson reported on ICMS. It was shared that ICMS changed the dues format to have everyone dues to be paid in May and they felt that has caused the membership to take a drop, but they are currently beginning to pick up members. They have between 150 -180 members. They shared an event that is coming up November 15th, the Can Dance where canned food is donated to a Food Warehouse in the area. They also have been working on their Facebook Page and Website (www.idahobikerrights.com). The printing of the Newsletter started not being cost effective so they have purchased a printer and will begin printing their newsletter themselves and it will be in color as it was in the past. They also have about \$600 from ITD coming soon to ANI for the Awareness Day Rally. They thanked us for getting the Fatality Talley Out. Also during the meeting Lane and Wayne were each presented with an autographed Buck Knife from ANI. Lane and Wayne presented Dave Cazel with a certificate of recognition for outstanding efforts in recruiting members into MRF. Dave has recruited 42 members, which for this area is a big accomplishment. Lane and Wayne also asked if we want anything highlighted on the Transportation Committee to submit it to them. Dan Ertz suggested that the Awareness Day Rally be included. Lane suggested that to help show a united front the packet

of documents that are submitted to the Legislators also include the ANI logo along with the ICMS logo. By acclamation all agreed that ICMS can use the ANI name and Logo on packets that are given to Legislators.

Meeting of the Minds Report- Dan Ertz was unable to attend the MOTM due to mechanical difficulties that showed up in Wall, SD. Wayne Wierson shared his thoughts that he had shared at the Conference, feeling that ICMS and ABATE are the Military of Motorcycle Rights, the Defenders of Freedom. Lane Spoke on MRF finances. The MRF needs 3500 more members to keep existing as they are. He also shared various Legislative items that are “staying” or “going”. It was noted that both Lane and Wayne are now serving on National Committees.

ABATE Membership Cards- It was mentioned that ABATE needs new cards. All the Membership Cards we have left have past Officers signature on them. It was also mentioned to put information on the back of the cards. Laura Ingalls has an example of a past ABATE card with information on the back that she will scan and share with Pauline Durst who is checking on prices for printing 2-sided cards.

Accident Scene Mgmt Class- Dave Cazel provided a report on an Accident Scene Management Class that he read about. Trina Michaels from Boise, ID provides a class on triage for motorcycle accidents. Lane Triplett and Wayne Wierson were familiar with the class. Discussion on possibly ANI sponsoring or paying a portion of the cost to bring Trina to the area and opening the class up to other Motorcycle Groups. Dave Cazel is going to get the details on cost, class size and dates. More information can be found on ridesafeidaho.org.

2015 Meeting Dates Set- SUNDAY, JANUARY 11TH, 2015, SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2015, SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2015
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015 (to accommodate ICMS)

Seating of 2015 BOD - Dan Ertz – Coordinator, Paul Riess – Deputy Coordinator, Belinda Wright-Ertz, Secretary, Pauline Durst – Membership Secretary, Karen Stewart – Treasurer, Roy Fisher – Ambassador at Large

Meeting adjourned at 2:40pm

Open Forum