



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

[www.abateofnorthidahobikers.org](http://www.abateofnorthidahobikers.org)

## January 11, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 12:13pm Quorum: Yes Pledge of Allegiance: Yes Prayer: By Dan Benson, State Chaplin

Attendance: **Dan Ertz** (Coordinator), **Belinda Wright-Ertz** (Secretary), **Karen Stewart** (Treasurer), **Dan Benson** (Chaplin), **Chris Benson** (Sgt. at Arms), **Roy Fisher** (Amb at Large and Hoodoo Coordinator), **Bob Merkel** (Hoodoo Dep. Coordinator), **Laura Ingalls** (Kootenai Coordinator), **Belinda Carson** (Kootenai Dep. Coordinator), **Dave Bremenour** (Hells Canyon Coordinator), **Bill Young** (Hells Canyon Dep. Coordinator) Guests: **Dave Cazel** (MRF State Rep) **Jack Clark** (Hoodoo) **James Pine** (Hells Canyon) **Lane Triplett** (ICMS)

Approval of agenda: accepted Prior Meeting's Minutes : Accepted

**Coordinator's Report/Address:** Welcome to Chris Benson, new Sgt. of Arms for BOD . Dan Ertz spoke about ANI not spending enough money toward our mission. His concern also that Members are not looking at the website and the minutes from all Chapters are not getting posted. ANI purpose is getting lost in the "shuffle". He suggested the 2015 Rally call to be "You Ride Free Because of Me". He passed around some business cards he purchased With his contact information on the front and the "Slogan" on the back. Dan presented a Tee Shirt idea using the same Flag that is shown on the FaceBook page header and suggested they are printed with "ABATE of North Idaho" and "You Ride Free Because of Me". Shirts would be sold to each Chapter at cost and then sold at the Spring Opener for a profit. **Roy Fisher made a motion that we move forward on the tee shirts with the suggested design, Karen Stewart seconded.**

**Deputy Coordinator's Report :** Paul Reiss – excused absence – out of town.

**Secretary's Report** – Belinda Wright-Ertz - Notified the BOD that a letter and a check for \$1,000 was sent to MRF. Belinda also passed around a flyer she received from ASI promoting Black Thursday along with a letter from ASI addressed to the BOD.

**Treasurer Report** – Karen Stewart – Karen presented our statement of finances.

**Membership Secretary's Report** – Pauline Durst – Pauline was out ill but sent information on members: Hells Canyon – 57, Hoodoo 47, Kootenai – 66, State – 19 Total Members 189. A card was passed around for people to sign for Pauline.

**Chapter Reports: Hells Canyon** – Hells Canyon has their schedule lined up for the New Year. They participated in a Fun Run and a Toyride with Highwayman and had a Halloween Party. They are currently working on their Easter Event and are looking for funds. They collect funds to provide candy and prizes for approximately 800 children. (This has increased from 500 kids in the beginning) They shared the vision of bikers sitting around stuffing 10,000 + eggs prior to the event. A hat was passed and donations were collected.

**Chapter Reports: Hoodoo** - Hoodoo has been working on the Spring Opener and are planning their Poker Walk which is a great event.

**Chapter Reports: Kootenai** – Kootenai joined Hoodoo for their Christmas Party and had a great time. They purchased the food for a Holiday dinner for their "Holiday Family" along with giving them the canned goods that they collect through the year at the monthly meetings. They are also working on their Freedom Run coming up May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Committee Reports: Legislative** - Dave Cazel spoke on several issues. There currently is a bill for an EPA study on E-15. Harley Davidson has recommended that you do not use E-15. Also spoke about restricting Government Funding for Motorcycle only Check Points. Harley Davidson has recalled 2012 FL and FX due to corrosion of banjo bolt on front break clipper. Victory has recalled all 2012 – 2015 models due to a fuel pump issue. Idaho is moving forward to limit the renewals on temporary driving permits for motorcycles. Dave Bremenour brought up some legislation that he heard was moving forward in Texas for hand grips for passengers.

**Committee Reports: Bylaws-** The change in the bylaws from last meeting was brought up due to some confusion in regard to members being required to supply the State with their Bio's and a picture by the month of October. It was addressed and decided that the Bios and picture should be sent in no later than 30 days from election. This is bylaw 4.2.2.4. ***Chris Benson moved that Bios and Pictures be turned in for publication to the website no later than 30 days after the election, Roy Fisher seconded.*** It was also brought up that a member of one of the Chapters did not want his picture published. No reason was given. It was decided that from now forward that if a person does not want their picture or bio on the website they should not seek an office.

**Web Page** – Bob Merkel reported the website is getting positive feedback. 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

**Facebook Page** – Belinda Wright-Ertz said the Facebook Class was a success providing a lot of good information and she has several pages of information she received at the class for future things to try. Between her and Bob Merkel they have managed to post something almost every day. She passed around statistics on the age group of their followers, where they are from, and which past posts have gotten the most “hits”. She passed around cards with her information asking that people send her things to post. She asked Hells Canyon to send pictures and information for their Easter Event that she could post to help raise donations. She also mentioned that she is planning to put the State Coordinator on Utube to be posted on the Web-page.

**Membership Cards-** Pauline was not here to provide the new membership cards. Belinda Wright-Ertz will check with Pauline to see if she has ordered the cards.

**Accident Scene Mgmt Class-** Dave Cazel gave an update on the class and the cost for (2) Instructors, (2) days, (2) classes with 30 people per class. ***Roy Fisher made a motion that ANI pay the total of of the Class cost, and collect \$25 per attendee to roughly reimburse the State 50% the cost of the class, Dave Cazel seconded.*** Tentative dates for the class would be March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Dave will schedule the class and is asking the Chapters get back to him with locations. Dan Ertz asked that advertising be sent to Bob Merkel and Belinda Wright-Ertz as soon as available. [ridesafeidaho.org](http://ridesafeidaho.org)

**Budget-** Budget for 2015 was gone over and it was determined to provide funds for ANI members to collect travel expenses to attend events that help promote ABATE. A Slush Fund was requested to be in place for the Awareness Rally and we would retain the budgeted figure to provide ANI members memberships for ICMS, AMA, MRF. Funds were also budgeted for Tee Shirt Stock. ***Roy Fischer made a motion to approve the budget, Karen Stewart seconded.*** Karen will plug in the new figures and present the spread sheet at the next meeting to be gone over by the BOD.

**Spring Opener 2015** – Bob Merkel had a meeting prior to the BOD meeting in regard to the Spring Opener. Last night the venue was signed off on and he is waiting to get the signed contract back from the band to move forward on the posters. It was also determined by the SO committee to provide each chapter 10 promotional tickets to give to non-members not already planning to attend the SO.

**Changing our Name-** Dan Ertz asked the BOD if anyone had thoughts on if we should change the name from American Bikers Aiming Toward Education. He felt the acronym was confusing and wondered if it accurately defined who we were. Discussion Was made on pros and cons of different suggestions. Dan asked that all Coordinators re-ask their members for suggestions and Feedback.

**Travel Expenses-** Discussion on how to provide travel expenses. Jack Clark presented a format for applying for funds and also provided a form. It was decided to use the IRS reimbursement amount of .14 per mile and it was determined a cost of \$50 per night for lodging. ***Chris Benson made a motion to use the IRS reimbursement amount of .14 per mile and \$50 per night for lodging, Dave Cazel seconded.*** Requests for funding will need to be approved by (2) BOD members and will be ok'd within the time frame of (2) weeks. Funds will be provided after the event with the proof of receipts. A report will be made to the BOD by the attendee and with any pictures taken to be forwarded to Belinda Wright-Ertz for Facebook. Dan Ertz will be the “go to” person to request travel funds.

**Honorary membership for Ron Fryer-** It was determined Ron Fryer goes above and beyond to provide good service for our web page. ***Roy Fisher made a motion to provide Ron Fryer an Honorary Membership to ABATE , Dan Benson seconded.***

**Medstar-** Dan Ertz spoke with MedStar to get a group rate for ABATE members. He would like to have that be a perk for members. He would like to have Medstar provide a presentation at the next BOD meeting.

**Chapter Membership Contest-** Dan Ertz announced a Chapter Membership Contest. The Chapter that raises their membership the highest percentage between December 1<sup>st</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup> will be publically honored in some fashion at the Spring Opener by the other two Chapters.

**MRF Rep Nomination-** ***Roy Fisher moved to nominate Dave Cazal as the State of Idaho MRF Representative, Belinda Wright-Ertz, seconded.***

**ICMS Report-** Lane Tripplett shared that their "Can Dance" raised funds and donated food to Boise Food Bank. He announced on February 14<sup>th</sup> is their Cabin Fever Dance and they are planning a Membership Dinner in March. April they are planning a Motorcycle Show in Boise and would welcome any help. He also said we will again get funding from ITD for our Awareness Rally in May, but flyers need approved by ITD. They help pay for Advertising, City Permits, Etc.

**Meeting Location Discussion-** It was discussed if we want to start having a traveling meeting that is hosted by each of the Chapters. The idea was met by approval from the BOD and Dan Ertz will contact each Coordinator .

***Dave Cazal moved to adjourn the meeting, Roy Fisher seconded.*** Meeting adjourned at 3:04pm

Open Forum