

**ABATE OF VIRGINIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
BIG LICKS TROPICAL GRILL, LYNCHBURG, VA 6/27/21**

Executive Director Stan Bryant called the meeting to order, there were nine Chapter Directors or their proxies and executive Board members present.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and ensuring a satisfactory quorum, as a copy of the minutes from the previous BOD meeting had been emailed to the Chapter Directors, Stan moved to dispense with a reading of the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

Stan noted there was a little confusion and some extraneous comments at the last meeting, so we would change things up a bit and conduct proper meetings with Chapter Director input.

Stan said we would talk about upcoming November elections to help determine legislative plans for next year. Stan noted the passing of Shelby Sutton and recognized Dave Sutton. Dave said their daughter Kari has become a Life Member of ABATE.

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

John Bilotta noted that a condensed version of the meeting minutes will be posted to the website.

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

Joe Wagner reported on recent activity such as deposits made, checks written and the balance.

Stan said he received a letter from A.I.L. asking about renewing our ABATE policy and Joe said he had already renewed it.

LEGISLATIVE

Legislative Coordinator GW Peterson explained how a bill moves through the General Assembly and the billing of dedicated lobbyist during each step in the process. GW also noted that some people had contributed personal funds for our legislative work. He went on to say that he will try to speak to several candidates prior to the elections and noted that we need to consider helping politicians, which could be monetary contributions or “boots on the ground” campaign help.

Stan said we need to make a decision now to start the wheels rolling. A motion was made to proceed, it was seconded and unanimously approved.

There was a discussion following, with comments from Randy Carter about a new State Senator, Joe noted that Tony Wilt had carried a lane filtering bill during previous session and Tom McGrath said there had been a meeting in May to discuss lane filtering, which included the positive outlook from the California Highway Patrol recognizing the safety aspects of it.

AMA/MRF/NCOM

John said that he and Lisa would be attending the NCOM Convention in Des Moines, Iowa from July 22nd to the 25th. AIM registration holders were handed out. The document holders should be carried in a pocket, noting that during a traffic stop, if a rider opens his saddle bag to obtain registration and proof of insurance, that opens the door for law enforcement to possibly conduct a search.

He also said that the 2021 MRF Meeting of the Minds will be held Atlanta, Georgia, from September 23rd to the 26th and encouraged everyone to try to attend.

John also said we need to contact our Representatives to request support for H.R.2141, Reauthorizing the Motorcyclist Advisory Council and H. Res 366, the Motorcyclist Anti-Profiling Resolution.

ADVERTISING

Stan said we are still in need of and looking for an Advertising Director.

MEMBERSHIP

Joe said that Maryann has been doing some traveling, he handed out annual year pins for each chapter present. He also noted that we had recently gained 27 new members.

PRODUCTS

Lisa said she brought the ABATE patches today and the other products would be available at the State Rally.

OPEN FLOOR

Li'l Joe brought handouts for the State Rally, noting that pre-event tickets can be purchased using Paypal (use abateva2020@outlook.com) and will also be good for entry for the drawing for \$100 cash or a handgun. He said there are two motels in Tazewell near the campground. The third one, Bluefield Comfort Inn already has something going on and will not be available.

Bob DeNova said he would have the Shelby Sutton patches available after the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Stan said the next BOD meeting would be at the State Rally in September.

The motion to adjourn was seconded and approved.