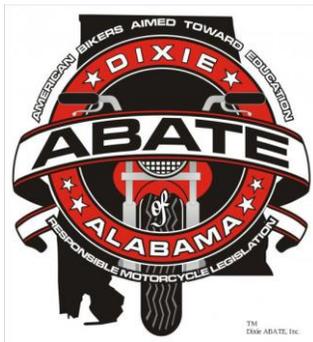


DIXIE ABATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Matthew Schroeder: State Director
Shane Coker: Assistant State Director
Larry Lindsey: Legislative & Education Director
Kris Cook: Secretary/Treasurer

Address:
612 32nd Street South, #206
Birmingham, AL 35233
For information: 205-617-9944



www.dixieabate.org

NORTHEAST REGION, NOCCALULA FALLS CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

James "Ghost" Johnson, Director
Shane Coker, Secretary/Treasurer
Garland Medlock, Assistant Chapter Director

EAST CENTRAL REGION, TRI-COUNTY CHAPTER (Montgomery area)

Steve Barclay, Director
Ashley Tolson, Assistant Director
Myrtle Livingston, Treasurer
Larry Holton, Sergeant-at-Arms

Dave Fail, Legislative Liaison
Nancy Garmon, Secretary, Product Coordinator, Membership Coordinator

MEETING NOTES: 12/12/15: Original Oyster House, Mobile, AL 2:00 PM

In attendance:

- Gee Jay Jones
- Alex Odem
- Fran Barber-Bruyn
- Neil Bruyn
- Matthew Schroeder
- Kris Cook
- Gene Powell
- Shane Coker
- Larry Lindsey
- Jim Kush
- Freddy Wheeler

Officers met at 1 PM to discuss changes to the organizational documents that the tri-county chapter had advanced at the previous meeting. Brief notes follow.

1. Ethics: Tri-County proposed: No person, whether it is a State or Chapter member or a non-member representing ABATE, whether is in an appointed position or serving in an Officer or member position, State or Chapter level, can use their position for personal gain either directly or indirectly in any manner. To do so will result in that person being expelled from ABATE permanently in all levels. The rules and regulations of the State of Alabama, under the CODE OF ALABAMA. ETHICS SECTION, shall be adopted by ABATE and made a part of the ABATE By Laws, Policies & Procedures, regarding all involved and shall be effective 10-17-2015.

A) The state board determined there was no vote necessary because it is already addressed in the Bylaws in Article 8: Conduct. Section 1, Paragraph B, reads: *Any officer found derelict in his or her duties shall be subject to review before the BOD and may be removed from office with good cause and proper redress by a majority vote of the members of the BOD.*

2. Elections: Tri-County proposed: On both State & Chapter level, no person will be allowed to vote in any manner, unless they are present for the vote and are a current member with their membership paid up and still current. Our constitution states, *Section 5: Proxy Requirements and Proxy Voting.*

A) Proxies must name a person who is a member in good standing to hold a proxy; the person holding the proxy must be physically present at the BOD meeting and the proxy may only be good for one meeting of the BOD.

B) 1.) Proxies are acceptable when done in writing. The writing must include the name of the voting member of the BOD, the name of the person to hold the proxy, the date that the proxy was written, the date of the BOD meeting to which the proxy pertains, the reason the voting member of the BOD is unable to attend, and should, if applicable, give direction on how the person holding the

proxy is to vote on any of the four categories named below in this section.

2.) Proxies are acceptable when done by email. The email must come from that officer's known email address used commonly in communication with the State Office, it must include the name of the voting member of the BOD, the name of the person to hold the proxy, the date that the proxy was sent, the date of the BOD meeting to which the proxy pertains, the reason the voting member of the BOD is unable to attend, and, if applicable, how to vote on any of the items on the agenda, or items that are introduced during the course of the meeting.

3.) Proxies are acceptable by phone only on the date of the meeting of the BOD only if voice is identified by two current members of the BOD and must name the person to hold the proxy and provide a reason why the voting member of the BOD is unable to attend. Proxies may name either a current member of the BOD who is present at the designated BOD meeting or name a member in good standing not on the current BOD who is present at the designated meeting of the BOD.

- D) Voting members of the BOD, especially Region Directors, are encouraged to send a non-member of the BOD to attend the BOD meeting with their written proxy. Although it is allowable to name a current member of the BOD, it is not preferable.
- E) Proxies held by a current member of the BOD will not be counted toward quorum determination. Proxies held by person who is not a current member of the BOD, their presence will be counted toward quorum.
- F) Votes from proxies held by a current voting member of the BOD will be counted separately from the vote made in the commission of their held BOD office.
- G) The Member in good standing holding a written proxy directions on a specific issue must vote as directed, unless additional information not known by the voting member of the BOD at the time the proxy was written is brought up at the current meeting and is of such a nature that the person holding the proxy believes it would have changed the voting direction of the person giving the proxy if it had been known in time. In such cases, the person holding the proxy may "abstain due to new information" from the vote. Under no circumstance may the person holding such a proxy vote in opposition of the direction given in the written proxy.

Proxy: Larry made the motion to change the Constitution to allow email voting. Shane seconded.

Gene clarified: Email voting on issues the state director deems appropriate for the state at large, that could not be addressed at a regular state meeting, not to include elections of state officers. State officers can be voted on by proxy, but not via email. The motion passed. Kris to amend the Constitution, and further discussion will be held to design the procedure that we will follow. Kris will then incorporate it into the Policies and Procedures Manual.

3. Officer positions: Tri-County proposed: "If an elected Officer, whether State or Chapter, fails to carryout their position duties in any manner, can be voted out at the next scheduled meeting and the vote to become effective on the first of the month following the vote." This is addressed in Article 8: Conduct of the Bylaws: *B) Any officer found derelict in his or her duties shall be subject to review before the BOD and may be removed from office with good cause and proper redress by a majority vote of the members of the BOD.* Therefore, there was no action by the state board concerning this proposal.

4. Tri-County's proposals for chapter rule changes were as follows:

a.) Chapters will no longer be required to submit meeting minutes to the State ABATE level." The board noted the existing policy in our Policies and Procedures manual: County and Region secretaries should send copies of approved minutes as required by the State Secretary, the ABATE Constitution and/or By-Laws.

b.) "Chapters will start sending out all membership packages , new and renewed, on the Chapter level. State is to provide Chapter with all package materials." The board approved this change in procedure. Kris had packet materials on hand to turn over to Tri-County, but they had no representative at the meeting to receive the materials. The board further decided (Matt made the motion, Larry seconded, motion carried) that the packets to be sent out will contain only materials approved by the State Director.

c.) "Chapter will be able to open and maintain their own checking account without any interference or actions from the State level. Chapter will be responsible for all monies and accountability of such". The board determined, on motion from Matt and with Larry seconding, to keep the bylaws and financial policy and procedure portions of the organizational documents as they are, with no rule changes. Motion carried. Chapters are allowed to have one checking account and no other accounts without specific authorization of the state treasurer. The state treasurer has sole online access to the chapter account.

d.) "All monies received by the Chapter, whether in sales, collections, 50/50 or such, will remain the full property of the Chapter. The only exception will be one half of all memberships, single & couples, shall still be submitted to the State for their use." The board referred to the Financial section of the existing Policy and Procedures manual, and voted not to change anything.

Chapters may keep all funds raised by 50/50 drawings, subject to the \$1,000 maximum balance allowed in chapter accounts at the end of any given year. Matt made the motion to let policies and procedures stand as written, Larry seconded, motion passed.

Note: Our organizational documents say "Region" instead of "Chapter." We have discussed doing a find/replace function to replace "Region" with "Chapter."

Kris to order cards for Gene and Larry.

Kris to change "three days" to "one week", in the Policies and Procedures Manual, under Financial Reporting, sentence #39: A Meeting Report, along with any meeting associated funds, must be filed with the Region Treasurer within 3 days of a county or region meeting even if there has been no activity." That sentence will be changed to "within a week of a county or region meeting." After the change to replace "county or region" with "chapter", the update will be complete.

NOTES FROM REGULAR MEETING:

Kris to send Alex and Gee Jay letters from the A&E requesting donations.

Kris to contact Lamar and find out the status of all of our billboard contracts.

Freddie suggested we make some t-shirts with "Can you see me now?", and "Motorcycles are everywhere" on them, in bright colors.

Billboard ideas were discussed. Kris read the treasurer's report and it was approved. Matt read the meeting notes from the last meeting, and they were approved on a motion by Larry a second from Gene, and a vote.

Kris to correct two typos in the notes from the last meeting.

Possible legislative initiatives in 2016: Auxiliary lighting, a dead red bill, and skills evaluation to get M endorsement.

Larry reported on the autocycle issue. (Example of an autocycle: a Polaris Slingshot.) 10 states call it a 3-wheeled motorcycle, 7 states call it an autocycle, and require a regular drivers license to operate it, 2 states have not classified it. Three states require an MC endorsement only. 31 states require a drivers license and an M or 3-wheel endorsement. Hawaii does not allow them at all. Alabama classifies an autocycle as a motorcycle so that vehicles like the Polaris do not have to meet auto safety standards.

What we want is to make sure Alabama keeps separate statistics for motorcycles and autocycles.

Larry reported that John Hamm, with ALEA, told him that Alabama has started the process of capturing motorcycle crash data. Gene will draft a letter to Spencer Collier, director of ALEA, requesting that autocycles have their own category in Alabama. Larry made the motion, Gee Jay seconded. Gene to look at an accident report.

Larry reported on presenting his Share the Road program in all the schools in Baldwin County. He called on all members to consider how to get this program to all drivers ed students in the state. The state department of education approves putting our module into the course of study for all drivers ed students. They have, and will continue to, distribute the DVD to all drivers ed teachers. All they need to do is add a appropriate evaluation at the end of the module.

Matt noted that getting presenters is the problem. People come to an inservice class, but then get intimidated when it is time to actually go into a high school and present the material.

Freddie brought up the idea of going for a Dead Red bill again this year. Gene has been talking to Randy Wood about it. 17 states have a Dead Red bill. Georgia recently passed one. Gene likes the way Georgia's is written. It stipulates there can't be any other traffic closer than 500 feet. It also states that if the rider causes an accident, it is the rider's fault. Georgia's wording says the rider has to wait "a reasonable period" for the light to go green. Matt recalled when we got shot down three years ago by ex-troopers who were unwilling to let riders use their own judgment about how long is reasonable. Gene suggested that 30 seconds is the average time riders and drivers wait at an average intersection. We need to include bicycles in our wording. Freddie suggested we contact bicyclist rights organizations for support with this. Matt made the motion that we word our bill for a 30-second wait. Neil seconded. Motion carried. Gene is working on a pre-file.

Freddie would like to see us put something together to hand out to grade school kids – some kind of score card, to raise awareness of motorcycles. The game would be like "slug-bug", but for motorcycles. We could go into the car-rider line at grade schools and hand out these cards. Kris to check with the MRF reps to see if any states do something like this.

Freddie suggested we start looking for grants now. Larry is taking a class on grant-writing. Freddie's company has \$10K annually that they can give to nonprofits, but no one has applied for years. This money would be perfect for our billboards.

Gene suggested we ask for a plug on lawyers' ads on TV.

We discussed getting a message on electronic message boards over the interstates. Since the boards are fairly new, a third party has control of what messages go on them. After December 31, when the state has control, maybe we can talk to them about getting our messages on a few of them.

Freddie said the Gold Wing Riders Association puts people at the state line rest stops to hand out awareness information. We discussed ordering water bottled with custom labels.

Fran suggested a PSA that flashed a motorcycle and our logo, and then Share the Road. It wouldn't have to be but three or four seconds long.

NEXT MEETING: 2/6/16, 2 PM, Niki's West, at 233 Finley Ave W, Birmingham, AL 35204