

A.B.A.T.E of Minnesota - Metro Chapter  
Coon Rapids V.F.W.  
March 11, 2025

Attendance:

President: Nick Capra Vice President: Jameson Lemke

Treasurer: Joe "JJ" Jones Secretary: Shannon Bros

Chapter Rep: Rob Benjamin

Sgt at Arms: Shannon Bros, Marcia Capra, Eric Bout-It, Brian "Benny" Ladoux

Members: Tammi Robison, Ron Lischeid, Jane Doyle, Marcia Borchardt, Robert Drometer, Samantha Godfrey, Andrew Godfrey, Mary Bazoff, Putz, Doc Kane, Ally Kat, Garry Green, Jayada Green, Rizzo TMO, Christopher Green, Denise Green, Camilla Benjamin, Randy Swenson, Jim Laspisa, Jay Pederson, Patricia Bout-It, "Jake" State Farm, Di Kommer. Total members in attendance: 30.

Guests: Nick Gerads, PJ. Total guests in attendance: 2.

We opened the meeting at 7pm with the pledge of allegiance led by Shannon.

Secretary Report: The chapter looked over the minutes from last month's meeting. Motion to accept secretary report as read Ally/Samantha. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer Report: The Zoho charge was found to be the annual yearly fee. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report Putz/Ally. All in favor, motion passed.

Chapter Rep Report: Dirty Rotten Biker Fest is coming up May 3rd. Profiling language has been introduced and there is currently no change in the helmet law. A bill to repeal the lane filtering law has been made. It currently still sits in the transportation department. Advertising for the lane filtering law should be seeing more movement soon. AAA is advertising in their Towards Zero Deaths Campaign. More campaigns should be seen in the near future. The chapter can add discussion of this new law to our upcoming bike nights. This would be the perfect time to earn the Write to Ride patch. ABATE U is coming up April 25 and 26. A member challenge is being introduced. The member challenge will hand out \$2,000 over the course of a year. The chapter quarterly that gets the highest percentage of new members will receive \$500 for their chapter. Heartland Steam has lots of chapters participating. Registration fee sits at \$50 and there will be activists from 5 to 6 states present. Motion made, Benny/Samantha. All in favor, motion passed.

Chapter Committee Reports:

Membership Committees, events and updates

--Membership Activity & Event Committees

– St Patty's Day Party. Presale ticket sales are going well. The ticket will include free beer, a burger basket, music by Rogue Royal. The chapter is looking for silent auction donations,

any silent auction items can be brought to the venue the day of. Shannon will be baking for the bake sale and is looking for anyone else who would like to contribute baked goods. This event should bring in a good crowd based on ticket presale numbers.

– Donnie Smith Bike Show: Our spot is reserved. ABATE will be joining CMA and Dial A Ride in our booth. Ron will be supplying backdrops for the booth. Our tunnel pass is set for 11 am the Thursday before the show. We are looking for volunteers to help set up and give people breaks.

--Member Training & Activities Committee: No news at this time

State Rally Report: It is illegal to transport firewood between counties and it carries a \$7,500 fine. We encourage buying wood from local Litchfield vendors versus trying to bring your own in. There will be no wood sold at the State Rally.

Legislative Business: Monthly update in the road noise. Nothing new to report.

New Business:

–The chapter was presented with the proposed state budget for the year of 4-1-25 to 3-31-26. The budget is expected to have a deficit due to memberships. Motion to accept the budget as presented, Eric/Ally. All in favor, motion passed.

–Metromorial: Southern Express has been locked in as our band for Metromorial. We are looking for volunteers and vendors to help run the event. The vendor fee remains \$50 as in previous years. Nick will be reaching out to the face painters and balloon artist for the event. As usual this event will be the Sunday of Memorial weekend. Jameson will be confirming with Route 47 that this date still works for them. Shannon is looking for help with the bake sale.

–Dirty Rotten Biker Fest: Metro will be partnering with Sand Dunes to set up and run a Dial A Ride booth.

– Chapter incentive challenge: Rob will be bringing in prizes for the winners of the incentive challenge.

–Dial A Ride: Impaired means impaired and this extends to cannabis products as well as alcohol.

–ABATE U: Will be held at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria. If you make a reservation be sure to call to get the ABATE block. If you are participating in the banquet you are to email Tim Jensen to reserve your seat and meal. Payment will be accepted at the event. Events at ABATE U will include human foosball, auction, and ticket raffle. There is no registration fee for this event.

– Patricia Bout-It removed her nomination for the Chapter Rep position and Eric Bout-It removed his nomination for Vice President.

The chapter voted on this years chapter officers. Jameson Lemke was voted in as President.

Brian "Benny" Ladoux was voted in as Vice President. Joe "JJ" Jones was voted in as Treasurer. Shannon Bros was voted in as Secretary. For the Chapter Rep position the first round of voting lead to a tie between Rob Benjamin and Shannon Bros as a write in nomination. Another vote for the Chapter Rep position was held. Shannon Bros won the second round of voting. Some concern was voiced over the logistics of her holding two separate officer positions. The Chapter discussed if they were comfortable with her having 2 positions or if they wanted her to step down from one. A motion was made to let the votes stand as cast. Motion made Eric/Andrew. All in favor, motion passed.

The floor was opened for members and guests to advertise their upcoming events. South Central will be having their Spring Fling the weekend before Metromorial at the Meeker County Fairgrounds. Ron will be there with his corn and potatoes. June 7th the Themadones have their summer party at the clubhouse. The National Coalition of Motorcycles convention will be May 9-11 in Mississippi. Hells Angels are hosting a party in Duluth Saturday, March 15th.

#### Upcoming Events

--Breakfast at Route 47, Sunday March 16th, 2025

--Taco Night at Casa Rio Monday April 7th, 2025

--St Pattys Party, March 15th, 2025

--Metromorial, May 25th, 2025

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:50pm. Motion made by Putz/"Grandpa" Garry Green. All in favor, motion passed