

A.B.A.T.E of Minnesota - Metro Chapter
Coon Rapids V.F.W.
September 9th, 2025
Metro Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

President: Jameson Lemke Vice President: Brian "Benny" Ladoux
Treasurer: Joe "JJ" Jones Secretary: Shannon Bros
Chapter Rep: Shannon Bros

Sgt at Arms: Brian "Benny" Ladoux, Rob Benjamin, Tammi Robison

Members: Randy Swenson, Putz, Chris Green, Denise Green, Callee Sopher.

Total members in attendance: 11.

Guests: Jane Doyle. Total guests in attendance: 1.

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

Secretary Report: The chapter looked over the minutes from last month's meeting. A correction was noted in the secretary's report from August. Amendment to be made. Motion to accept secretary report with amendments, made by Putz, seconded by Rob. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer Report: JJ presented the treasurers report. The bill from the Road Guard Certification class was mailed directly to the state instead of the chapter. There was some momentary confusion who the bill belonged to. It was brought to the chapter's attention by Kent Verner that there are funds available for chapter training programs. These funds can be reimbursed up to \$400. A motion was made by Tammi to request \$400 from the state training fund, motion was seconded by Rob. All in favor, motion passed. October will be the last taco night at Casa Rio in Anoka. The chapter is looking for a new venue to resume our monthly buffet. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report made by Tammi, seconded by Denise. All in favor, motion passed.

Chapter Rep Report: America Income Life Insurance company is offering some no cost benefits to ABATE members. There is a card you can send in for accidental death and dismemberment where you can designate a beneficiary. They also offer free will planning that once notarized and registered it is a legal will. There are discount programs for prescriptions and even pet medications. If you register a child safe kit it can bring the Amber Alert response time down to 30 minutes from 4 hours. These programs do not replace insurance but help to fill in gaps. None of the information is shared with third parties. The member challenge is still active and ongoing. In the first round every chapter signed up a new member. Up North won the chapter challenge and South Central signed up the most new members. Motion to accept the Chapter Rep report made by Rob, seconded by Tammi. All in favor, motion passed.

MRF report: Meeting of the minds is set for Shreveport, Louisiana. September 10th is the last day to get discounted tickets to attend. There will be focus on profiling, emissions, and grass roots lobbying. We haven't heard much currently from the legislation session.

State Coordinator Jane Doyle came to the chapter to ask if they would be willing to donate an ABATE of Minnesota state patch. ABATE of Oklahoma is putting together a quilt to auction and they are trying to get patches from all MROs. A motion was made by Rob to donate a patch with a value of \$8 to Jane to mail for the quilt. Motion was seconded by Denise. All in favor, motion passed.

Chapter Committee Reports:

Membership Committees, events and updates

--Membership Activity & Event Committees

--No update on outdated memberships

--Bike Night: Last bike night of the season tonight.

--Member Training & Activities Committee: No current update.

State Rally Report: No report until after the October BOD.

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

New Business:

--We still have 50 buddy bears to give out. We need to find 2 more places to donate to.

--The chapter website is out of date and will be updated

--Shannon is already accepting silent auction donations for our St Patty's Party. Jameson will be getting in touch with Route 47 in November to figure out the date for the party.

--Donnie Smith booth is in the talks to get an upgrade. The chapter is discussing requesting state products to be there and possibly ordering new signage. Jameson did purchase a canopy to loan to the chapter for the event. We will be looking into deadlines for securing our booth.

--The website to register for Bikerday will be updating with a potential to go live next week. This would make registering an easier process.

--We have found a venue that works to host a burger social but due to timing this event will be tabled until sometime in Spring of 2026

--The final taco night hurrah will be October 6th, 2026. Stay tuned to see where we go next.

Upcoming Events

--Next Meeting Tuesday, October 14th, 2025

--Bike Night Tuesday October 14th, 2025

--Breakfast at Route 47 Sunday September 21st, 2025

--Taco Night at Casa Rio Monday October 6th, 2025

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:58pm. Motion made by Rob, seconded by Putz. All in favor, motion passed