

AHRMA Board Meeting
October 13, 2014 (Third 2014 Board Meeting)
Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum; Leeds, AL

The meeting was called to order in open session at 8:12am by AHRMA's Chairman of the Board, Mark Hatten.

In attendance were Executive Director Dave Lamberth, Communications Directors Matt Hilgenberg and Ginger Hilgenberg, and Trustees Carl Anderson (Treasurer), Jerry Grakauskas, Fred Guidi, Mark Hatten, Dave Janiec, Fred Mork, Debbie Poole, Rob Poole (Secretary), Pat Riley, Beno Rodi, Corky Root and Kelly Shane.

The meeting began in open session, with Hatten outlining the tasks ahead and the general procedures for the day's meeting.

Approval of Millville, NJ minutes

Janiec moved to approve the minutes of the second 2014 Board of Trustees meeting, held July 14, 2014, at New Jersey Motorsports Park, as written, and Anderson seconded. The final vote to formally approve those minutes was 11-0 in favor, with Shane abstaining.

Introductions took place, first by the Trustees and AHRMA staff, then by the members in attendance at that time: Bob Burns, Jennifer Burns, Kevin Burns, Luke Conner, Arthur Kowitz, Ron Perconti and Patti Root.

Treasurer's Report

Anderson presented the Treasurer's Report, as follows:

Treasurer's Report

US Economy

Positives:

Stock Market continues to make gains
Unemployment still on a downward trend
Fuel prices steady, remain significantly below \$4 in many areas
Housing market growing, prices rising at a steady rate

Negatives:

Polls suggest consumers are spending more of their paychecks, saving less
Travel spending is down
Unsettled world affairs lead to uncertainty over a variety of factors, including future fuels costs.

Status of AHRMA finances:

Diligent cost cutting and strategies to improve events seem to be having a positive effect.
Numbers YTD seem to be improved over 2013
Final bankruptcy payment has been made.

Janiec noted for the members that after seven years, AHRMA made its final bankruptcy payment in October, and that 100-percent of the debts were repaid. He credited past and current Board members, and Lamberth's "working on a razor-thin budget" for the accomplishment. Hatten then gave a synopsis of the bankruptcy history for the members' benefit.

It was noted that the final paperwork was being completed to move investments from RBC to a self-sustaining Vanguard account.

Executive Director's Report

Lamberth began with the financial Actual-to-Budget Comparison, year-to-date, through September, which showed that AHRMA was \$13,835.20 ahead of budget.

Lamberth shared with the Board the event attendance summary. Janiec observed that, "Roadracing is doing well, motocross is up-and-down, but basically level, dirt track is on life support, and trials is on the way up." Off-Road Director Guidi thanked the Pooles for their work and travel during the 2014 season to help the trials series.

The first draft of the fiscal year 2015 budget was presented by Lamberth, who noted that there was little change, compared to the 2014 budget.

The 2015 National roadrace series schedule was put forth and approved by the Board. Discussion took place regarding new facilities to contact about future races. The off-road schedules were not yet finalized; Guidi said the motocross schedules would be similar to 2014, but he was waiting for other organizations and tracks to complete their schedules before certain dates could be confirmed. Janiec asked for updates regarding off-road events and New Jersey Motorsports Park (NJMP) and NOLA Motorsports Park, where talks are on-going.

Discussion ensued regarding 2015 Board meeting locations. Hatten suggested holding the meetings in conjunction with roadraces at Sonoma Raceway (CA), NJMP and Barber Motorsports Park (AL). After discussion, Grakauskas moved to have the First Meeting at Sonoma, and Rodi seconded. The vote was 10-2 (Riley, Shane) in favor.

An AHRMA Document Retention Policy was reviewed, and Grakauskas made a motion to formally accept said policy. Root seconded, and the vote was 12-0 in favor.

AHRMA Document Retention Policy

May 5, 2014

The following policy outlines the different types of documents and the length of time that these documents will be retained by AHRMA.

Financial documents

The following will be retained a minimum of seven (7) years:

All internal accounting records not listed below
Payroll records (all)
Bank records (all)

The following will be retained permanently:

Audited/reviewed or compiled financial statements
Federal tax forms and supporting schedules
Accounts Payable paid files
Cash receipts files
General ledger records
Investment account information
Fixed asset master control file

Corporate records

The following will be retained permanently:

Meeting minutes for both full board and executive committee meetings
Annual reports of any type
Articles of Incorporation
Corporate bylaws
Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation or the Corporate bylaws
Contracts (active and expired)
Trustee election result information
Correspondence with legal counsel
Records of copyrights

Internal documents

The following will be retained a minimum of seven (7) years:

Internal correspondence
Working files for the preparation of Vintage Views

The following will be retained permanently

Documents deemed to be historical in nature to the organization
Insurance documents
Monthly copies of Vintage Views
Annual copy of AHRMA Handbook (rulebook)

The method of destruction for any of the above documents is by shredding only. No document is to be discarded by placing in the trash.

The AHRMA Trustee Conflict of Interest Policy was reviewed, and Janiec made a motion to accept said policy. Anderson seconded, and the vote was 12-0 in favor. This policy also appears in the bylaws, and has been approved by counsel.

AHRMA Trustee Conflict of Interest Policy October 1, 2014

Performance of Duties: A Trustee of the Association shall perform his or her duties as a Trustee, including his or her duties as a member of any committee of the Board upon which he or she may serve, in good faith, in a manner he or she reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the Association and with such care as an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would use under similar circumstances.

A Trustee may not serve in a compensated position within AHRMA operations.

A Trustee may not participate in or attempt to influence any decision by the Association that may affect his or her own personal business interest or otherwise use his or her position as a Trustee for personal gain.

Hatten outlined the Trustee Travel Policy for the observing members.

Discussion and voting on 2015 rules proposals began.

The meeting went into recess at 9:38am.

The meeting reconvened at 10:00am.

Member Open Comment Session

At the Third Meeting, final decisions are made regarding the following year's rules; due to this, most member comments were directed to that topic.

Kevin Brown asked that the Board not combined roadracing's Sound of Singles (SoS) 1 and SoS2 classes for the 2015 season, noting that, "No one in Sound of Singles 2 wants this."

Five-year AHRMA roadrace competitor Wendy Newton said she attended all races in 2014, and urged the Board not to combine SoS1 and SoS2; she possessed letters from other competitors who felt the same.

Charles Miller outlined a list of eight reasons not to combine SoS1 and SoS2, which included a comparison of lap times; he noted good class participation and a low cost for entry and participation for SoS2, and appreciated that the class gave entrants the opportunity for innovation and creativity.

Conner asked the Board to keep an eye on not obsoleting the modern-class roadrace bikes of members who have supported AHRMA and have developed their bikes along the way.

He noted that Next Gen Superbike is a good class, but needs a “bump” class. He was supportive of the proposed Battle of Twins class for air-cooled machines.

Conner continued by saying he felt certain aspects of the 2015 rules proposal regarding Trustee background checks had merit, and suggested that the Board consider random drug testing for race participants. Janiec said that AHRMA currently follows the standard of care for the industry of amateur sports; Mork opined that it would be wise to watch how general amateur-sport drug policies develop before considering changes.

Conner concluded by sharing the following 2015 roadrace rule proposal opinions: Allow the Honda CB750 to compete in Sportsman 750; leave the rules as-is for Thruxton TransAtlantic Challenge.

Kevin Burns expressed concern that (roadracing) rules are being broken, and more enforcement is necessary. He opined that having the Ducati 848 in Battle of Twins (BoT) Formula 2 “has been disruptive.” Burns said he would “hate to see SoS2 go away, it’s a great builders’ class.” He closed by saying that AHRMA “is becoming more important in the racing world, and integrity is important,” and drug testing might be part of maintaining that integrity.

Bob Burns shared his thoughts that the single-overhead-cam (SOHC) Honda CB750 should be allowed in Sportsman 750, as it would be a good graduation class from Novice Historic Production Heavyweight, noting that the jump to Formula 750 or Vintage Superbike Heavyweight was too large for most participants. He then circulated a petition signed by 13 current Sportsman 750 riders, supporting the addition of the CB750 into the class, with a one-year probation.

Burns, who was recognized in the First Meeting as a successful recruiter for AHRMA, continued by saying that his work in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin has been ongoing for 10 years; he informs interested parties about track days, “wrench night” get-togethers and other activities through a Google group, which has been very successful.

Burns’ 2015 rules proposal to allow newer machinery in Novice Historic Production classes was preliminarily rejected at the July Board meeting, as it was not specific or thorough enough. He gave the Board some insight to his line of thinking, and it was determined that he’d work with the Rules Committee to develop a specific list of bikes to be considered for inclusion for the 2016 roadracing season.

Brian Herzfeldt spoke next, opening with the observation that BoT F-2 should be a place for Suzuki SV650s and other 650cc bikes, and that the Ducati 848 did not belong in that class. He suggested that Next Gen Middleweight or Lightweight classes be considered as an avenue for AHRMA roadracing expansion. Herzfeldt’s final comment was that he’d like to see current factory-supported professional riders not earning series points at AHRMA roadraces, as it takes away from those who compete season-long.

In response to the Trustee background-check proposal, Allison Naughtin voiced her opinion that she does not want AHRMA to have criminal, felons or sex offenders to serve as Trustees. Hatten said background checks are on a slight uptick for organizations that have people working directly with at-risk population. That can include background checks for nominated Trustees, but AHRMA is in a different situation with Trustees elected by the membership. The members who vote during the Trustee election normally are familiar with the candidates, which is instrumental in deciding who serves as Trustee. Additionally, according to AHRMA bylaws, any Trustee can be removed from his/her position by the Board, which is an additional safeguard of integrity. Hatten explained that background checks would have to be performed in each of the 50 US states, and even internationally, to be thorough and reasonably accurate.

Perconti spoke next, and expressed the belief that AHRMA could possibly secure a weekend race date at Sonoma Raceway, and that a festival-type event could be created at that facility.

Following-up on previous member comments, Allen Wenzel said that drug testing had been discussed during his time on the Board, as early as 1998. He then turned to vintage motocross, and the proposed Early Sportsman Stock (ESS) class, which he felt, “seems to be a western request, with little eastern care,” and that the ESS-eligible bikes are subjects of, “a perception problem that they aren’t competitive Sportsman (class) bikes.” He thanked the Board for AHRMA’s contribution in making the Barber Vintage Festival (BVF) a good event.

Longtime AHRMA volunteer and event coordinator Tom Kullen explained his history with the 1999 Park City, UT events, and the subsequent Bonneville Vintage Grand Prix, held the past nine years at Miller Motorsports Park (MMP) in Tooele, UT. He told the Board that Rob Nish, of the MMP marketing department, was at BVF during the weekend, with the goal of growing the Bonneville GP. Kullen felt that AHRMA should take advantage of the MMP facilities to conduct off-road events during the roadrace weekend. Grakauskas said he travels to the area periodically, and could visit the facility to see what terrain could be available. D. Poole had concern about workers for off-road competition, since western volunteers are normally very busy during the August-September time period.

The member open comment session concluded with Pat Wilkening explaining that he felt SoS1 and SoS2 should not be combined.

The meeting went into lunch recess at 11:59am.

The meeting reconvened in open session at 12:13pm, with discussion and voting on 2015 rules proposals.

Barber Motorsports Park’s Jeff Ray and Brian Slark visited the meeting to thank AHRMA for its part in the Vintage Festival. Ray also addressed the subject of the 2014 Barber vintage motocross cancellation.

Discussion and voting on 2015 rules proposals continued.

The meeting went into recess at 3:18pm.

The meeting reconvened at 3:28pm.

Discussion and voting on 2015 rules proposals concluded at 4:38pm.

Committee Chair Assignments

Hatten selected Chairmen for each of the 2015 Rules & Eligibility and special committees. All remained as in 2014 with the exception of Dirt Track Rules & Eligibility, for which Anderson was appointed Chairman.

Other New Business

D. Poole asked the Board to approve a new perpetual Special Award for the champion of the Modern Classic Master class champion in observed trials. Janiec made the motion to accept, R. Poole seconded, and the vote was 12-0 in favor.

The meeting went into closed session at 4:48pm.

The meeting returned to open session at 5:53pm.

Lamberth thanked Janiec for all of his time and effort to support AHRMA as a member of the Board and as Chairman for many years; Janiec's current term ends with the First Meeting of 2015, and he has opted not to run for reelection.

Lamberth thanked Matt & Ginger Hilgenberg for their work as Communications Directors since assuming the role in September, 2013.

Root made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:55pm, Anderson seconded, and the vote was 12-0 in favor. Accepting Hatten's offer, Janiec struck the gavel to end the meeting.

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