



**AHRMA Board Meeting**  
**April 10, 2017 (First 2017 Board Meeting)**  
**Willows, CA**

The meeting was called to order at 8:07am by AHRMA's Chairman of the Board, Carl Anderson.

In attendance were Executive Director Dave Lamberth, Communications Directors Matt Hilgenberg and Ginger Hilgenberg, and Trustees Carl Anderson, Tom Bentley, Kevin Burns, Fred Guidi, Mark Hatten, Louis LeBlanc, Debbie Poole, Rob Poole, Pat Riley, Beno Rodi and Kelly Shane.

**Open Session**

The meeting began in open session, with Anderson seating Eastern Trustee Rodi, who was newly-elected to a three-year term in January. Anderson (Eastern Region), R. Poole and Riley (Western Region) were re-elected in January.

Western Trustee Luke Conner was not present at the meeting, which was his third consecutive Board meeting absence. Under Article IV, Section 6 of AHRMA's Bylaws, *"In the event that a Trustee fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board, such office shall be deemed to have been vacated. In the event that the office of a Trustee becomes vacant, the Board, by majority vote, shall appoint a replacement Trustee who shall take office and serve for the balance of the vacated Trustee's term."*

LeBlanc presented a Power of Attorney (PoA) from Conner's counsel, who suggested the PoA be considered equal to physical attendance. LeBlanc explained that Conner had intended to be at the meeting, but had been injured at an AHRMA roadrace – including fractured vertebrae – on April 1, and doctor's orders prevented travel.

Lengthy discussion ensued involving all Trustees. Topics included the wording of the Bylaws, any possible interpretations of the Bylaws, considering a PoA physical attendance, precedents and potential ramifications of any or all actions.

Burns made the motion: "I move that, in light of the PoA document just presented, the Board shall deem Luke Conner NOT in violation of Article IV, Section 6 for consecutive absences, and he shall remain a member of this Board contingent upon attending all subsequent Board meetings of his elected term." LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was 4 (CA, KB, LL, BR) in favor, 7 against.

It was confirmed the Board would proceed with the meeting operating as 11 members.

In conclusion, it was determined that the Bylaws were quite clear, with no "gray area" in which to operate, and that adhering to the Bylaws was necessary.

The possibility was discussed about immediately appointing a replacement Trustee during this meeting, but it was decided that a call for applications from interested candidates be issued. Shane made a motion to fill the vacated Western Trustee seat by notifying membership that interested parties would submit applications to the National Office by May 1, and the Board would select the replacement Trustee via email or conference-call vote no later than May 8. Burns seconded the motion, and the vote was 11-0 in favor.

The election of Officers began with the position of Chairman. R. Poole nominated Anderson and Shane seconded. There were no other nominations, and the Board elected Anderson to the position with a 11-0 vote in favor.

R. Poole nominated Shane as Treasurer, and D. Poole seconded. There were no other nominations, and the Board elected Shane to the position with a 11-0 vote in favor.

Guidi nominated Burns for the position of Secretary, and Hatten seconded. D. Poole nominated R. Poole, and Shane seconded. A secret-ballot vote was conducted; M. Hilgenberg counted the ballots and announced that Poole was elected as Secretary.

The meeting went into recess at 9:25am.

The meeting reconvened at 9:42am in open session.

#### **Approval of Leeds, AL minutes**

Guidi moved to approve the minutes of the third 2016 Board of Trustees meeting, held October 10, 2016, at the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum, as written, and D. Poole seconded. The final vote to formally approve those minutes was 11-0 in favor.

#### **Member Open Comment Session**

The member comment session began at 9:50am; in attendance were Jeff Herndon, Terri Herndon, Dick Mann, Kay Mann and Wes Plunkett.

The Trustees and AHRMA staff introduced themselves to the members in attendance.

Plunkett said he was, “A happy member. We have great events, thanks to the promoters in the Northwest region.” He then urged Trustees to “stay the course.”

J. Herndon said, “I’d like to thank the Board members for their efforts so we can do this. It’s great to have a place where folks are able to experience the great, safer (MX) tracks and older machines.”

Anderson added that he had ridden motocross for the first time in 27 years the day prior to the meeting, had a great time, and looked forward to racing MX more often.

Having attended several types of events during the previous year, Burns noted that “AHRMA people are all the same, across all disciplines – you find great folks in the pit area all the time.”

D. Poole added that the Elk Creek Volunteer Fire Department members and the medical team that worked the Burrows' Ranch AHRMA trial/cross country/MX in the days leading up to the meeting all said that it's their favorite event to work, primarily due to the people.

D. Mann said, "Our group is very dedicated and a great group of people who volunteer. Most Western motocross races are promoted by members; many are very-longtime members who support the region (whole-heartedly)."

Plunkett asked why post vintage MX had never taken-off in the West. D. Mann said his observation was that riders of post vintage bikes have a different attitude than the group that has been racing vintage MX since the beginning. The post vintage riders tend to arrive at the track, race, and leave. They generally don't volunteer or help with the event or with the design of an appropriate racetrack.

The Member Open Comment Session ended and the meeting continued in open session at 10:12am.

Hatten suggested that a motorcycle be raffled as a possible fundraiser for AHRMA. He outlined the process used by other organizations and noted that partnering with a current manufacturer could be beneficial for all.

#### **Treasurer's and Executive Director's Reports**

Lamberth presented the 2016 year-end Financial Statement Review. It was noted that AHRMA's financials are fully audited every five years, and are reviewed each other year.

Lamberth advised that financial results for the fiscal year through March showed excess revenue over expense of \$68,148 as compared to a budgeted excess of expense over revenue of \$40,784, resulting in a positive variance of \$27,364. Cash flow was reported as strong and there were no issues with collecting accounts receivable.

The balance in the two RBC Investment accounts as of March 31, 2017 was \$228,297.61.

Finally, event attendance was reviewed.

The meeting went into lunch recess at 11:03am.

The meeting reconvened at 11:30am in open session.

AHRMA membership stood at 3089 on March 31.

Lamberth explained to the Board that copies of the January *Vintage Views* were wrapped in a special cover and mailed to people whose membership had expired between January 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. The special cover included a notice of expiration, a letter inviting them back to AHRMA, and a membership form. At the time of the meeting, the effort netted 131 renewals, or an 11.25% return.

Additionally, a letter was sent to those whose membership had expired July 1-December 31, 2016; that mailing drew 106 renewals (28.5% response).

Lamberth outlined other plans and techniques for regaining former members. Hatten felt the efforts were on point, and suggested doing the *Vintage Views* mailing more frequently.

Shane asked for an update on One Event (weekend) Memberships.

D. Poole requested that the possibility of higher-quality membership cards be investigated; Lamberth would pursue.

### **Other Business**

Rodi stated that he felt it was unfair that riders age 70+ do not receive a free event entry in observed trials or dirt track. Hatten and Anderson briefed him on the discussion and thought processes that occurred with the rule was passed at the 2016 Board meetings.

R. Poole asked if the roadrace staff had moved forward with requiring a safety certification for batteries of electric motorcycles that had been modified for racing in the eSuperSport class. Discussion ensued regarding battery certification, overcharging, extinguishing fires and other electric bike topics.

The eBike conversation was closed with R. Poole reiterating that part of the original agreement for allowing eSuperSport as an official roadrace class was that they would not have a bump class or ever be allowed to compete head-to-head with gasoline-powered machines. It appeared that an eBike was entered in a Sound of Singles class at one point during the 2016 season.

Burns suggested that some of the rules-change proposals could be previewed and covered prior to the July meeting in an effort to streamline the process, which would result in additional time for other business at that meeting. A plan was put in place for Lamberth to distribute the proposals to the Trustees and rules committee members on or about June 1, and for all those involved to have their decisions and summaries back to Lamberth the week of June 19. Decisions on some, but not all, of the proposals could then be determined electronically prior to the meeting.

Regarding future Board of Trustees elections, Burns said he would like to see online voting made possible. Hatten noted this topic had been raised several times in the past, and stated his research into the matter showed that AHRMA's voter turnout was in-line or slightly better than average for non-profit organizations, and that electronic voting showed no improvement in voter participation over paper ballots. It was noted that currently a CPA firm is employed to record votes with the purpose of having an undoubtedly fair, unbiased election each time. They are hired to ensure that each ballot received comes from a current member who votes just one time, and votes correctly with regard to the election rules. After discussion, it was determined that hiring a second company to fulfill the same process electronically, then merging those online votes with the paper-ballot votes would result in unnecessary complication and expense. For the 2017 election, the prepaid postcard ballot method will remain in place.

Anderson commented that Spain's Juan Bulto had attended the past three AHRMA roadrace weekends, bringing positive exposure to the organization.

Burns made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Guidi seconded. The vote was 11-0 in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 1:46pm

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