

## ABATE OF WASHINGTON



### Spokane Chapter

October 1, 2025

MRF "Meeting of the Minds" report

#### Thursday, Sept 25<sup>th</sup>:

I was able to attend the MRF BOD meeting as a guest. ½ the Board, committee directors were elected to positions. The MRF looks out 3-5 years in their budget preparations. Membership is 15-20 per month. Up from last year. Everyone on the Board is responsible for getting new members. 2026 Meeting of the Minds will be in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Fred – events, This year the highest pre-registration for Meeting of the Minds.

RF works across the isle – Legislation works together to build relationships with COC and ABATE. MRF is on a lot of other boards and committees. MRF has national relationships with Harley-Davidson, Indian, Buell, other brands. Also, Cyclesource.

MRF A&E (Awareness & Education) committee spoke on their activities.

MRF Lobbyist – Rocky - MRF is good position at this time get priorities passed in the highway bill – items that come under the highway department. Last time Highway bill passed was when House/Senate/President are all the same party which was in 2021 everyone was Democrat. Now all three areas are Republican. Very good chance everything will pass.

The MAC (Motorcycle Advisory Council) was terminated this summer because the current administration clean house of all appointees from the prior president. Now Trump is reorganizing the MAC. MRF is working on getting the MRF seat back and having Jay Jackson, VP for MRF as our representative.

MRF board meeting closed now to vote and have private discussion not open to public.

All WA delegates went to register for conference, dinner and go to the Meet & Greet of all attendees. Then we went to hospitality room for food & refreshments.

#### Friday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>:

General Session – President Kirk, Hardtail presided.

Over 400+ people were present. Over 40+ states are present. 41 years MRF in existence.

Main focus is to "Educate, Motivate and Inspire" of Meeting of the Minds.

IN Washington D.C. there are 535 offices that make up the House and Senate. At Meeting on the Beltway ALL offices are seen in one day! *"We are the heart of MRF and it is up to us."*

Issues Nationally focused on:

- Autonomous Vehicles

- Crash Avoidance
- Data Recording
- Definition of Motorcycle
- Emission Regulations – EPA Funds, NHTSA forcing miles per gallon doing away with motorcycles.
- Helmet Laws – personal choice
- Internal Combustion Engine
- Profiling
- Renewable Fuels – Holding motorist hostage – fuel and pushing for electric.
- Right to repair or modify
- Vulnerable Roadway User Terminology

### **Need numbers, Need Young People, Need more State Motorcycle Rider Organizations (SMROs).**

Highway Bill is renewed every 5 years. Under their jurisdiction is:

- Profiling
- Definition of a motorcycle
- Autonomous vehicles – detect pedestrians, pets and bicycles. Looks at profile of object. Motorcycle is profile of bicycle but it goes too fast so eliminates as not really there. Electric bikes are part of going too fast and mopeds.
- The MAC – Get MRF VP, Jay Jackson on the Board.

NHTSA lobby ban – They lobby in states against motorcyclists.

National COIR, (Council of Informed Rides) Please join Free. Help get information out. NationalCOIR to register.

Continue to take the profiling survey every year. Congress wants numbers every year.

Treasurer Report:

- 42% of budget is membership dues
- 31% is donations
- 16% Admin costs

One year of Expenses in the bank. Working on getting three years of expenses in the bank. Transparency.

MRF A&E report and awards/scholarships.

Jay Jackson VP MRF, Safety, Safety Trainings Courses. In 2023 there were 6335 deaths on motorcycles. Every year it goes up. Motorcycles are 3% of Traffic and 15% of the fatalities. *The thought out there if eliminate motorcycles will eliminate 15% of deaths.*

MSF has a training coach shortage.

IMA (Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket) in existence 3 ½ years.

Industry is shrinking because being push out of business.

- Shops
- Parts
- Events
- Right to tools
- Buy what you want

MRF PAC – Political Action Committee, ***Passion & Boots on the ground.***

## **MRF Rep awards**

### **Top Recruiters new and renewal**

Ohio  
Minnesota  
Michigan  
Oklahoma  
2 – Wisconsin  
2 – Iowa  
Pennsylvania  
Illinois  
Texas Team

### **New Members**

Pennsylvania  
West Virginia  
2- Iowa  
2 - Wisconsin  
Texas Team  
Illinois  
Oklahoma

## **Workshops**

First Timers – great handout to know all the areas of the MRF and how functions at National Level. No influence on the State level only National issues. Better understanding of MRF and the help they can provide. MRF legislative history.

Executive Directors Town Hall – How to work with the MRF, handout. Learn issues and how to handle in Boards or Chapter levels.

Break, dinner MRF PAC fundraiser.

## **Saturday Sept 27<sup>th</sup> :**

General Session II – Jay Jackson VP of the MRF

Club world update from Russell Radke. Very happy to see a good mix in the audience of Clubs and non-club members. Very approachable. Clubs are reaching out for more members. COC's membership is growing. They have great momentum.

Membership – Eric Ross

## **Bragg Rights Award goes to WASHINGTON ABATE!!!!**

Texas and Wisconsin got 2 awards

Keynote Speaker was a Louisiana Legislature that is a Biker. He spoke very well. He supports biker and tells Washington DC to "Get out of our Way!!" Trump knows him and has appointed him to several investigative committees. Very good!!

## **Workshops**

Robert Rules of Order – Great class to reaffirm my knowledge. Got a handout on motions. Got an answer on how we should have handled the mistake made at the July BOD meeting. Per Roberts Rules of Order 12<sup>th</sup> edition it answers it for us. We should have had a ZOOM meeting asap when several of us found out how we should have handled it in July. More information on how to have our meetings run smoothly. Both teachers were impressed with my knowledge. Motions need to have WHO, WHAT, HOW MUCH, WHEN in the body of the motion.

**"Freedom is not FREE. We must always stay vigilant and Ready to Fight."**

Media and Social Media – Discussion on how many admins. Need to have more reels. Reels are what interest people and short time length. Facebook, Insta gram, Tik Tok (X). Need to Like, Comment and share to get in the logarithm. Always include links and hashtags to get back to information you are sharing.

Facebook parameters – 1-3 sentences, 144 characters or less, 15 seconds for videos and reels. Need security add on's so not hacked. Social media is getting aged out – Facebook. People moving to Instagram and Tik Tok (X). QR code generators – [www.qr-code-generator.com](http://www.qr-code-generator.com) or <https://www.qrcode-monkey.com/>

### **Closing Banquet & Awards**

Ring of the Bell – announcement of all fallen riders for 2025.

Appreciation awards, Aftermarket award, Thomas Paine Award, MRF Rep of the Year, Founders Award, Lifetime Achievement Award, MRF Hall of Fame, John "Farmer" Eggers Award.

**Sunday Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>** : Blessing of the Bikes.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Diana Picone*  
*Coordinator*  
*Spokane Chapter*

Re: Notes and handouts available upon request.