

Oahe Abate Chapter
Meeting Minutes

Feb. 15, 2026

Call To Order

Oahe Abate Chapter President, Abe Elder, call the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Lonnie led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tara read the Jan. 2026 minutes and advised they were submitted to the state office by the Jan 15th deadline.

Angie provided a membership report. We currently have 82 members. She's expecting that a few will not renew their membership this year. However, she has mailed a few forms for new memberships that she hopes to get back.

Our State Representative, Lori Butler, was unable to attend, but she did submit her report which Abe read to the members. In the report, Lori said she is looking for a sub for the State BOD Meeting in Sioux Falls, SD on March 21st, 2026, as she will be attending the Heartland STEAM conference in Alexandria, MN. Anyone planning to attend is encouraged to register and reserve their rooms.

Road Captain, Clint Namanny was unable to attend, so we didn't have a Road Report. Abe reminded the members who are taking advantage of the unusually warm weather we have been having to check their tires, oil, and brake fluid.

Gina Morris was unable to attend, so the Treasurer's Report is not available.

Abe made a motion to approve the reports that we submitted. Lilly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Upcoming events include the City of Pierre St. Patrick's Day Parade at 5:15 pm. Registration is requested. The registration form can be found on the www.cityofpierre.org/FormCenter website; and A Crash Course for the Motorcyclist in Pierre on Feb. 21-22 at the Pierre fire Department, Station one (across from Richie Z's). The Advanced Class (300) is Sat. Feb 21st, from 9 am – 5 pm. The Basic Class (100) is Sun. Feb. 22nd, from 9 am – 5 pm. The registration fee for each class is \$25.

Old Business

Doug reported that the 2026 Legislative Days were well attended by ABATE members who had the opportunity to visit, in person, with Attorney General/US House Candidate Marty Jackley, and State Senator/US House Candidate Casey Crabtree, as well as Governor Larry Rhoden. He said there are two bills that involve motorcyclists this year: 1) SB 173, which proposes to extend motor vehicle and motorcycle licensing fee exemptions for disabled veterans and their spouses; and HB 1079 which would revise conditions for the suspension, denial, or restriction of various licenses, including motorcycle licenses and permits, for individuals with medical conditions such as seizures and blackouts (defeated as it was too vague). Doug also advised that he will not be renewing his term as Oahe ABATE Legislative Officer and encourage the members to consider the position. He is willing to visit with anyone interested and help them get started.

Lonnie, Clint and Abe reported that the Fun Run Committee consisting of them, Brandon, & Jess have communicated with Jim Mehlhaff about playing, for a lesser fee, since they got rained out early last year. Whether they play Friday or Saturday is yet to be determined. They will confirm with Nystrom's this month, that we are still welcome to use their goose camp. Brett & Denicka reported Tristan Schofield has expressed interest but needs to check with the rest of his band. Members seemed to think he would be well received with or without the rest of the band. They said he is enjoyable when he performs solo as well.

New Business

Angie found a text message service (TEXT MAGIC) that she would like to use to send notifications to the members. The fee is \$20 for the first month, and \$10 each month thereafter. Jamie made a motion to authorize using this service. Lilly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jamie is aware of someone interested in taking the course to obtain their motorcycle endorsement. She will send their name and contact information to Abe.

We need to get the memorial patches for Joe Kelly ordered. The chosen colors are purple and gold. Members were asked to bring design ideas with them to the next meeting. Getting back to the more plain and simple designs was suggested as patches have been getting bigger and more elaborate, and thus more expensive. Tara made a motion to go simple, but tasteful. Sarah seconded it. Motion carried.

Jim Geuther announced the Sick Breed Lake Oahe Chapter Annual Biker Gala will be March 7th, 2026, beginning at 5:00 pm at the Pat Duffy Community Center in Ft. Pierre. Festivities include Indoor biker games, silent auction, 50/50 raffle, cash bar, & cook off/bake off. It's open to the public; all are welcome. Eight-person table can be bought for \$100, or for \$70 with hygiene item donations for PILC. Jamie made a motion for ABATE to purchase a (\$70) table and make a PILC donation. Each person at our table can bring hygiene items. Shelly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bonnie reminded members its scholarship time again and that our intention is to select one Stanley County and one Riggs high school student planning to attend a technical school. Their grade point average isn't as high of a priority as the other criteria identified, which she listed for the members. The scholarships will be due on or about April 2nd, so Bonnie will be looking for volunteers to help select the students most deserving of the awards. Jamie made a motion to offer the scholarships as proposed. Jim seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bonnie asked if we could go ahead and approve next year's scholarships, so we aren't quite so pressed for time. Tara made a motion to approve next year's scholarships. Matt seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Bret Campbell announced they are planning to put on the James Hicks Memorial Bull Riding again this year. They have reached out to the Stanley Co. Fairgrounds for a date. They will bring more information to the next meeting and would welcome a donation from ABATE.

Drawings were held. Angie won the SOL and Abe won the 50/50.

Lonnie made the motion to adjourn. Shelly seconded it. Motion carried.

Submitted by,

Tara Hicks,
Clerk